

## MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

### BROOKLYN CITY COUNCIL

**January 11, 2016**

**7:00 p.m.**

Present: Kevin Tanski  
Barb Paulitzky  
Ron Van Kirk  
Tony DeMarco  
Kathy Pucci  
Mary Balbier

Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance.

Interim President Van Kirk asked to amend the Agenda to include an authorization of a Fire Dept. grant and a confirmation of a removal of personnel. **MOTION** by Kathy Pucci, second by Ron Van Kirk to amend the Agenda, adding the removal of the Law Director, adding authorization of grant application for the Fire Dept., changing Ord. 2015-77 to second reading (it says third reading), and under Executive Session adding personnel. **VOTE RESULTED: Amend Agenda:** Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, DeMarco, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **(AGENDA AMENDED)**

Int. Pres. Van Kirk said on behalf of Council hopes everyone had a safe and memorable holiday season and looking forward to 2016. Welcome Brooklyn's newest Mayor, Katie Gallagher. He looks forward to working with her for the betterment of our city. Welcomed Councilwoman Barb Paulitzky to City Council, and honored she is with us and looks forward to working with her for the betterment of our city as well. On January 4<sup>th</sup> Council met in Organizational mtg., with no consensus reached on a new Council President; therefore, as Pro-Tem from last year he will serve in President role until a permanent President is chosen. Once chosen, appointments will be made to Finance, Public Works, and Public Safety Committees, as well as other President appointed positions. Until the appointments are made the 2015 committee assignments stay in effect. At that meeting Councilwoman Pucci was approved for Council rep. on Planning Comm.; Councilman Tanski as rep. on Recreation Bd., Councilwoman Paulitzky as rep. on Domestic Violence; and Councilwoman Pucci as rep. for Economic Development Comm. On the Agenda is a confirmation for a re-appointment on the Planning Comm., a removal of the Law Director; authorization of a grant application for the Fire Dept. (for new fire hose, thermal imaging camera, automatic external defibrillators and a LifePak, with the City's share if awarded of \$6,250, with the entire grant being \$125,000); Ord. 2015-72 on third reading for purchase of a mini-max one-armed garbage truck for \$210,103; Ord. 2015-73 on third reading for purchase of mobile radios for Service Dept. for \$90,646; Ord. 2015-77 on second reading establishing the full-time position of Econ. Dev. Director; at the conclusion of meeting there will be an executive session to discuss matters of personnel relating to the Econ. Dev. Director; and then another executive session to interview three candidates who applied for the vacant Council seat.

#### **PUBLIC SESSION:**

*None*

#### **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS & BOARDS:**

Finance Committee (Councilwoman Pucci): The Comm. met at 6:15 and recommended: Council approve the application for grant application for Fire Dept.; hold in abeyance Ord. 72 for the one-armed garbage truck until the budget process is completed; approve adoption of Ord. 73 for radios for Service Dept. as it's an issue with safety and need; Dir. Enovitch gave the latest fund balance report for 2015, which is close to final (Gen. Fund year beginning balance, \$10.1M, anticipated \$19M, actual was \$19.1M; Gen. Fund expenses, expected, \$16.8M, actual was \$16.5M; there are open encumbrances of \$245,000; unencumbered balance into 2016 is approx. \$12.3M; all funds went down approx. \$1M) The Audit will begin Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, and Dir. Enovitch will be meeting next week to discuss GAP Conversion.

Recreation Board (Councilman Tanski): Friday night basketball will begin Jan. 15-Jan. 19, open to residents grades two-six, register at Recreation Center, cost \$35. Rec Center monthly and yearly passes on special during January: buy monthly get two weeks free, buy yearly get two months free. Free Get Fit classes are Jan. 25-31, with 30-plus exercise classes (call for schedules with bonus classes). For more information on everything call the Center at 216-351-5334. The next Rec Bd. meeting is Wed., Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in Rec Center meeting room.

Legislative Update (Councilwoman Balbier): When she campaigned in the past door to door it seemed there were as many dogs as people. Some Bills in the Legislature deal with pets: HB 187 provides for first responders to assist with hurt dogs, cats, other animals in emergency situations. HB 60 is known as Goddard's Law, co-sponsored by Rep. Patmon, applies to any animal kept inside a residential dwelling, or dog or cat, regardless where kept (including pet stores); and allows first time intentional acts of cruelty to be a felony. Failure to provide food and water, and shelter are separate offenses.

Zoning Bd. of Appeals (Comm. Kulcsar): The next Bd. of Zoning Appeals meeting is Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 p.m. in the City Hall conference room to hear requests: from Agile Sign and Lighting Maintenance, Inc. for a setback variance of five feet from sidewalk to edge of sign, a sign maximum height variance of 3'2" for free-standing illuminated full color sign message center for business identification of Cleveland Bible Baptist Church at 4431 Tiedeman Rd. It was approved 12/16/15 by the Planning Comm. contingent upon variance approvals. Second from David Sternberg of Five Star Media LLC to erect a 14x48 foot double faced billboard with lighting at 5111 Tiedeman, which was denied 1/7/16 by the Planning Comm. which deemed it not to be aesthetically harmonious with surrounding area.

Planning Commission (Councilwoman Pucci): The Commission met Jan 7<sup>th</sup> and heard requests of: D. Sternberg of Fire Star Media LLC to erect a 14x48 foot double faced billboard with lighting at 5111 Tiedeman (First Energy property south of Sheetz Gas Station), deferred from the 12/16/15 meeting. The request was denied as it was deemed not aesthetically harmonious in that area. Second from Bert Edwards of Inter-mobile One LLC to construction additional parking lot at 8215 Clinton Rd., deferred from the 12/16/15 meeting. With still outstanding items to be addressed in plans, the Comm. deferred until the applicant is ready to re-present, and that Mr. Edwards and the designer meeting with Bldg. Commissioner to go through everything addressed in plans, and the Commissioner will review the process as there are some potential variances they need to seek.

#### **REPORTS OF COUNCIL:**

**Kevin Tanski:** Welcomed Katie Gallagher as new Mayor, and Barb Paulitzky as new Councilwoman, congratulating both.

**Barb Paulitzky:** Thanked everyone for voting for her and putting her on Council. Congratulated Katie Gallagher for being new Mayor. She is on Domestic Violence Committee, which is new to her, and would like to get together with the members, because February is a special month for Domestic Violence, and would like to get something ready to present.

**Tony DeMarco:** Welcomed all back. Welcomed newest Councilmember Barb Paulitzky. Offered his help in anything she needs. Proposed Ord. 2015-77, establishing the full-time position of Economic Development Director. He's been talking about this for around six years. He feels our economic development efforts in the city have been sub-par; he hopes the other Councilmembers support this ordinance.

**Kathy Pucci:** Wished all happy new year. Offered condolences to the family of Carol Witherow, who spent many years in Brooklyn City Schools, and served admirably in numerous positions. She cared about the schools and every student she encountered. Commented on the confirmation of returning member Jim Oper to Planning Comm. She explained she has abstained in the past and will abstain for his confirmation because, though she has a lot of respect for him, she doesn't think someone who is on the School Bd. should be on the Planning Comm. in case of possible competing interests. Reiterated she has nothing against him, and she has even spoken to him about this, but she will abstain. Welcomed Katie Gallagher in her role as Mayor. Welcomed Barb Paulitzky as newest Councilmember and looks forward to working with her.

**Mary Albier:** Welcomed Barb and Katie Gallagher. It will be an interesting year, so we'll sit and take the ride, and maybe buckle up seatbelts and see what happens. Thanked Boy Scout Troop 319 for spending time visiting the Veteran's Home on Brookpark Rd. It teaches them at a young age to visit and remember our veterans. She's sure they had a wonderful time. Read and shared some axioms to live by that her daughter had shared from Pope Francis. Wished everyone a happy new year.

**Ron Van Kirk:** No report.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

**Mayor Gallagher:** Wished everyone a happy new year. Said she's honored to be sitting her as Mayor; and is looking forward to opening the City Hall doors to better communication, more accessible services, and a more efficient government. Continued visiting businesses in Brooklyn this past week so they know the City Hall door is open, and we're willing to help them be successful in Brooklyn. She's in the process of organizing times to set aside for residents each month in her office, for expressing concerns and suggestions; a Coffee with the Mayor is scheduled for March 11<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Center; monthly newsletters to residents and business owners will be continued; her exec. secretary is in the process of working with the Rec. Manager to set up a Farmer's Market this summer; will continue Fall Festival in partnership with the school; a resident photo contest for the City's 2017 calendar will launch shortly, she met with Rep. Marty Sweeney to hopefully include something in the State's capital budget for our city; will look for any funding possible for the city's needs. Each Monday she will continue to pass on information from the directors' staff meeting to Council to keep in the loop. Welcomed Barb Paulitzky to Council, she worked hard in the election, and is here for right reasons and deserves to be here; she looks forward to working with her. Thanked the Police Officers and Fire Fighters for professionalism in the recent standoff on Archmere Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>. The officers are expected to respond to domestic incidents, not knowing what the outcome may be. She's grateful for a peaceful outcome in this; and also thanked the residents' patience in the area with streets being closed. Sends condolences to the Angela Greco family on her passing two weeks ago. Speaking of the Planning Comm. and Jim Oper, she has served on the Commission the last four years, and thinks he's a good addition to the Commission and has done a tremendous job; she wants to reappoint him. The Civil Service Comm. meets Wednesday at 5 p.m. for the Organizational meeting (per the Charter). There is a vacancy on the Comm. and she posted it on the city website and will interview this week for those who applied.

### **DIRECTORS REPORTS:**

Finance Dir. Enovitch: Gave information regarding the Regional Income Tax Agency's (RITA) potential data security incident from Nov. 2015. RITA is offering credit monitoring and identity theft protection services through Experian to the potential 2% of their accounts potentially affected. A new process implemented before the discovery of the missing DVD in question is in place. More information is available call them directly at 866-940-3613 or at [www.ritaohio.com](http://www.ritaohio.com).

### **CONFIRMATIONS:**

Mayor Gallagher requests Council Confirmation for the reappointment of Jim Oper to the Planning Comm., term to expire 12/31/21. **MOTION** by Tanski, second by Van Kirk to confirm the appointment. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Confirm Appointment:* Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, DeMarco, Albier. Abstain: Pucci. (abstains for his confirmation because, though she has a lot of respect for him, she doesn't think someone who is on the School Bd. should be on the Planning Comm. in case of possible competing interests.) No: None. **(APPOINTMENT CONFIRMED)**

Mayor Gallagher requests, per Art. 4, Sect. 5 of the Charter, Council Confirmation on the removal of Scott Claussen as Law Dir. of Brooklyn, effective 1/1/16. **MOTION** by Tanski, second by Van Kirk to confirm the removal. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Confirm Removal:* Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, DeMarco, Pucci, Albier. No: None. **(REMOVAL CONFIRMED)**

**REQUESTS:**

Request From Chief Zemek to authorization an application to apply for a grant through FEMA for new equipment (fire hose, thermal imaging camera, AEDs, LifePak cardiac monitor, defibrillator, patient care monitoring device – with the city's share if awarded of 5%/\$6,250 – total grant \$125,000) **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Tanski to authorize. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Authorize:* Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, DeMarco, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **(AUTHORIZED)**

**LEGISLATION:**

**ORDINANCE 2015-72**, Authorizing purchase of one 2017 Freightliner Mini-Max one-armed garbage truck for use by Service Dept. from Cleve. Freightliner, Inc. for \$210,103 state govt. pricing. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Tanski to hold in abeyance until the budget process is completed. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Hold in Abeyance:* Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, DeMarco, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **(IN ABEYANCE)**

**ORDINANCE 2015-73**, Authorizing purchase of 35 new and upgrading 15 mobile radios, parts, labor and installation for use by Service Dept. from Cleve. Communication, Inc. for \$90,646 from state govt. pricing. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Tanski to adopt. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Adopt:* Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, DeMarco, Pucci, Balbier. No: None **(ADOPTED)**

**ORDINANCE 2015-77**, Establishing full-time position of Economic Development Director. **(SECOND READING)**

Councilman DeMarco said he received his 2016 Brooklyn calendar, thanked whoever made the decision, a lot of residents appreciate it.

**MOTION** by Pucci, second by Tanski to adjourn to executive session for the discussion of the personnel regarding the Mayor's choice for Economic Development Dir., with the Mayor, Law Director and Finance Director. At the conclusion of that part, Council will interview the three candidates who applied for the vacant Council seat in executive session. **VOTE RESULTED:** *Adjourn to Executive Session:* Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, DeMarco, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **(ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION)**

**MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by Tanski to reconvene. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Reconvene:* Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, DeMarco, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **(RECONVENED)**

There being no further business, **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Van Kirk to adjourn. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Adjourn:* Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, DeMarco, Pucci, Balbier. No: None. **(ADJOURNED)**

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Clerk of Council

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President of Council